

Message Text

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73

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 EB-07 AID-05 AGR-05 COME-00 SSO-00 /080 W

----- 068439

R 071330Z MAR 75

FM AMCONSUL ASMARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3247

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

USCINCEUR

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, ECON, PINS, PINT, PGOV, ET

SUBJ: ETHIOPIAN LAND REFORM IN ERITREA

REF: A) ADDIS ABABA 2700

1. THE REACTION TO THE MARCH 4TH LAND REFORM PROCLAMATION HAS BEEN BARELY PERCEPTIBLE IN ASMARA. THIS IS IN PART DUE TO THE FACT THAT CHANGES IN THE VARIOUS LAND SYSTEMS IN ERITREA WILL NOT BE THAT GREAT. ART 28, CHPT 6 WHICH REMOVES LAND DISPUTES FROM THE COURT SYSTEM WILL HAVE MORE EFFECT THAN OTHER ARTICLES IN ERITREA. IN SERAE DISTRICT LAND DISPUTES COMMONLY PROCEED FOR MORE THAN 10 YEARS. MOST EDUCATED SOURCES WELCOME THIS PARTICULAR CHANGE FOR ERITREA.

2. MUCH OF THE LAND ON THE PLATEAU IN ERITREA IS VILLAGE LAND AND COMMUNALLY CONTROLLED AND IS DIVIDED EQUITABLY, ALBEIT
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INEFFICIENTLY EVERY 7 YEARS, AMONG THOSE VILLAGERS WILLING TO

FARM THE LAND. LAND LORD/PEASANT RELATIONSHIPS ARE NOT A PROBLEM
UNDER THIS SYSTEM. HOWEVER, PREVIOUS EFFORTS AT IMPROVING THE
ECONOMIC EFFICIENCY OF VILLAGE LAND BY INCREASING SIZE OF LAND
TRACTS OR PERIOD TRACTS HELD HAVE BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL.
SHERRY

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NNN

Message Attributes

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